

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Friday, December 18, 2009.

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A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the amendment of the House of Representatives to the amendment of the Senate to the bill at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, December 17, 2009; provided further, that the first hour be equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees, with Republicans controlling the first half hour and the Majority controlling the second half.

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Amendments Submitted:

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Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—379)

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Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:21 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, December 17, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S13341.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

H.R. 310, to provide for the conveyance of approximately 140 acres of land in the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma to the Indian Nations Council, Inc., of the Boy Scouts of America;

H.R. 511, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to terminate certain easements held by the Secretary on land owned by the Village of Caseyville, Illinois, and to terminate associated contractual arrangements with the Village;

S. Res. 374, recognizing the cooperative efforts of hunters, sportsmen's associations, meat processors, hunger relief organizations, and State wildlife, health, and food safety agencies to establish programs that provide game meat to feed the hungry;

A resolution to authorize watershed projects in Massachusetts and West Virginia; and

The nomination of Jill Long Thompson, of Indiana, to be a Member of the Farm Credit Administration Board, Farm Credit Administration.

Also, committee announced the following subcommittee assignments:

Subcommittee on Rural Revitalization, Conservation, Forestry and Credit: Senators Stabenow (Chair), Leahy, Harkin, Nelson (NE), Casey, Bennet, Cornyn, Cochran, McConnell, Grassley, and Thune.

Subcommittee on Energy, Science and Technology: Senators Bennet (Chair), Conrad, Nelson (NE), Brown, Klobuchar, Stabenow, Gillibrand, Thune, Lugar, Roberts, Johanns, Grassley, and Cornyn.

Subcommittee on Hunger, Nutrition, and Family Farms: Senators Brown (Chair), Leahy, Harkin, Baucus, Stabenow, Casey, Klobuchar, Bennet, Gillibrand, Lugar, Cochran, McConnell, and Cornyn.

Subcommittee on Production, Income Protection and Price Support: Senators Casey (Chair), Leahy, Harkin, Conrad, Baucus, Brown, Roberts, Cochran, Johanns, Grassley, and Thune.

Subcommittee on Domestic and Foreign Marketing, Inspection, and Plant & Animal Health: Senators Gillibrand (Chair), Conrad, Baucus, Nelson (NE), Klobuchar, Johanns, Lugar, McConnell, and Roberts.

Senator Lincoln and Senator Chambliss serve as ex officio members of all subcommittees.

JOINT STRIKE FIGHTER PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on the assessment by the Joint Estimating Team of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Program, after receiving testimony from Ashton B. Carter, Under Secretary for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, Christine H. Fox, Director, and Frederick Janicki, Division Director, Weapons Systems Cost Analysis Division, both of the Office of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, and Major General David R. Heinz, USMC, Program Executive Officer, Joint Strike Fighter Program, all of the Department of Defense.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. Res. 275, honoring the Minute Man National Historical Park on the occasion of its 50th anniversary;

S. Res. 297, to recognize the Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve as a unique and precious ecosystem;

S. 409, to secure Federal ownership and management of significant natural, scenic, and recreational resources, to provide for the protection of cultural resources, to facilitate the efficient extraction of mineral resources by authorizing and directing an exchange of Federal and non-Federal land, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 522, to resolve the claims of the Bering Straits Native Corporation and the State of Alaska to land adjacent to Salmon Lake in the State of Alaska and to provide for the conveyance to the Bering Straits Native Corporation of certain other public land in partial satisfaction of the land entitlement of the Corporation under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 555, to provide for the exchange of certain land located in the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests in the State of Colorado, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 721, to expand the Alpine Lakes Wilderness in the State of Washington, to designate the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River and Pratt River as wild and scenic rivers, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 782, to provide for the establishment of the National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 853, to designate additional segments and tributaries of White Clay Creek, in the States of Delaware and Pennsylvania, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, with amendments;

S. 874, to establish El Rio Grande Del Norte National Conservation Area in the State of New Mexico, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 940, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the Nevada System of Higher Education certain Federal land located in Clark and Nye counties, Nevada, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1053, to amend the National Law Enforcement Museum Act to extend the termination date;

S. 1139, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into a property conveyance with the city of Wallowa, Oregon, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1140, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to Deschutes County,

Oregon, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1369, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Molalla River in the State of Oregon, as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, with an amendment;

S. 1405, to redesignate the Longfellow National Historic Site, Massachusetts, as the "Longfellow House-Washington's Headquarters National Historic Site";

S. 1453, to amend Public Law 106-392 to maintain annual base funding for the Bureau of Reclamation for the Upper Colorado River and San Juan fish recovery programs through fiscal year 2023;

S. 1672, to reauthorize the National Oilheat Research Alliance Act of 2000;

S. 1757, to provide for the prepayment of a repayment contract between the United States and the Uintah Water Conservancy District;

S. 1759, to authorize certain transfers of water in the Central Valley Project, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 689, to interchange the administrative jurisdiction of certain Federal lands between the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 714, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands in Virgin Islands National Park, with amendments;

H.R. 1121, to authorize a land exchange to acquire lands for the Blue Ridge Parkway from the Town of Blowing Rock, North Carolina;

H.R. 1287, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into a partnership with the Porter County Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission regarding the use of the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center as a visitor center for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore;

H.R. 1376, to establish the Waco Mammoth National Monument in the State of Texas;

H.R. 1442, to provide for the sale of the Federal Government's reversionary interest in approximately 60 acres of land in Salt Lake City, Utah, originally conveyed to the Mount Olivet Cemetery Association under the Act of January 23, 1909;

H.R. 1593, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of Illabot Creek in Skagit County, Washington, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System;

H.R. 1694, to authorize the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 under the American Battlefield Protection Program, with amendments;

H.R. 1945, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility and suitability of constructing a storage reservoir, outlet works, and a delivery system for the Tule River Indian Tribe of the Tule River Reservation in the State of California to provide a water supply for domestic, municipal, industrial, and agricultural purposes;

H.R. 2330, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing Camp Hale as a unit of the National Park System, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

H.R. 2802, to provide for an extension of the legislative authority of the Adams Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in honor of former President John Adams and his legacy;

H.R. 3113, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of the Elk River in the State of West Virginia for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; and

H.R. 3276, to promote the production of molybdenum-99 in the United States for medical isotope production, and to condition and phase out the export of highly enriched uranium for the production of medical isotopes, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1102, to provide benefits to domestic partners of Federal employees, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1830, to establish the Chief Conservation Officers Council to improve the energy efficiencies of Federal agencies, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2868, to provide increased access to the General Services Administration's Schedules Program by the American Red Cross and State and local governments;

H.R. 2711, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the transportation of the dependents, remains, and effects of certain Federal employees who die while performing official duties or as a result of the performance of official duties, with an amendment;

S. 2865, to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act (2 U.S.C. 801 et seq.);

S. 2872, to reauthorize appropriations for the National Historical Publications and Records Commission through fiscal year 2014, with amendments;

H.R. 2877, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 76 Brookside Avenue

in Chester, New York, as the "1st Lieutenant Louis Allen Post Office";

H.R. 3667, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16555 Springs Street in White Springs, Florida, as the "Clyde L. Hillhouse Post Office Building";

H.R. 3788, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3900 Darrow Road in Stow, Ohio, as the "Corporal Joseph A. Tomci Post Office Building";

H.R. 1817, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 116 North West Street in Somerville, Tennessee, as the "John S. Wilder Post Office Building";

H.R. 3072, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9810 Halls Ferry Road in St. Louis, Missouri, as the "Coach Jodie Bailey Post Office Building";

H.R. 3319, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 440 South Gulling Street in Portola, California, as the "Army Specialist Jeremiah Paul McCleery Post Office Building";

H.R. 3539, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 427 Harrison Avenue in Harrison, New Jersey, as the "Patricia D. McGinty-Juhl Post Office Building";

H.R. 3767, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 170 North Main Street in Smithfield, Utah, as the "W. Hazen Hillyard Post Office Building"; and

The nominations of Grayling Grant Williams, of Maryland, to be Director of the Office of Counter-narcotics Enforcement, and Elizabeth M. Harman, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, both of the Department of Homeland Security.

TOOLS TO COMBAT DEFICITS AND WASTE

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security concluded a hearing to examine tools to combat deficits and waste, focusing on enhanced rescission authority, including the Impoundment Control Act of 1974, which was enacted to tighten congressional control over presidential impoundments and establish a procedure under which Congress could consider the merits of rescissions proposed by the President, after receiving testimony from Senator Feingold; Todd B. Tatelman, Legislative Attorney, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Susan A. Poling, Managing Associate General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, Government Accountability Office; Raymond C.

Scheppach, National Governors Association, Washington, D.C.; Robert L. Bixby, The Concord Coalition, Arlington, Virginia; and Thomas A. Schatz, Citizens Against Government Waste, Alexandria, Virginia.

HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law concluded a hearing to examine United States implementation of human rights treaties, after receiving testimony from Thomas E. Perez, Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice; Michael H. Posner, Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor; and Wade Henderson, Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, and Elisa Massimino, Human Rights First, both of Washington, DC.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of James A. Wynn, Jr., of North Carolina, and Albert Diaz, of North Carolina, both to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit, after the nominees, who were introduced by Senators Burr and Hagan, testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Robert A. Petzel, of Minnesota, to be Under Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Health.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 82 public bills, H.R. 4326–4407; and 23 resolutions, H.J. Res. 65–66; H. Con. Res. 223–225; and H. Res. 977–994 were introduced. **Pages H15498–H15502**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H15502–04**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 976, providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3326) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes; for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 64) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2010, and for other purposes; for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4314) to permit continued financing of Government operations; for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 2847) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 111–380) and

H.R. 2190, to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to phase out the use of mercury in the manufacture of chlorine and caustic soda, with an amendment (H. Rept. 111–381). **Page H15498**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Baldwin to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H14983**

Adjournment Resolution: The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 223, providing for the sine die adjournment of the first session of the One Hundred Eleventh Congress, by a yea-and-nay vote of 222 yeas to 195 nays, Roll No. 978. **Pages H14991–92**

Waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules: The House agreed to H. Res. 973, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, by a recorded vote of 218 ayes to 202 noes, Roll No. 980, after agreeing to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 226 yeas to 192 nays, Roll No. 979. **Pages H14992–93**

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and agree to the following measure which was debated on Monday, December 14th:

Honoring the American Kennel Club on its 125th anniversary: H. Con. Res. 160, amended, to honor the American Kennel Club on its 125th anniversary, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 419 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 981. **Pages H14993–94**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “Recognizing the contributions of the American Kennel Club.”. **Page H14994**

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated on Tuesday, December 15th: